



Speech by

JULIE ATTWOOD

MEMBER FOR MOUNT OMMANEY

Hansard 20 June 2001

COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL

Mrs ATTWOOD (Mount Ommamey—ALP) (5.33 p.m): I am pleased to support the Community Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2001. When this bill becomes law it will improve the foundation on which the bodies covered by the Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984 and the Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984 are based. This will not only enable them to meet their responsibilities in terms of accountability but will also equip them to play their vital and demanding role in the community more effectively.

I would particularly like to refer to the Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984 and the Island Industries Board, which is also known as IBIS. IBIS operates supermarkets on Thursday Island and at Bamaga as well as general stores spread throughout the Torres Strait. Its businesses include a service station, car rental, a travel agency, and it also services airline passengers using Horn Island airport with transfers to and from Thursday Island, and baggage handling and ticketing services. As a business enterprise, it is complex, and with annual sales of some \$26 million it is a major business undertaking.

Also, IBIS is a statutory body that is operating in a very competitive and demanding environment. While it holds a significant position in the local market, it has many competitors. These include other retail stores in the Torres Strait itself and stores such as those based in Cairns that ship orders directly to customers living on the islands. In addition, the demands from consumers living in and visiting the region are becoming more discerning, especially in terms of the quality, range and prices of the food and household goods required.

This means that while IBIS has had a longstanding role in providing products through retail outlets to remote island communities, it is also a mainstream retailer to an increasingly sophisticated retail market. This market goes beyond local consumers and includes institutional customers such as the Defence Department, local businesses, tourists visiting the northern peninsula area, tourists and visitors to Thursday Island and the other islands, and even PNG nationals who visit Saibai Island to shop. In many cases, IBIS is the major supplier of daily household needs to those living in or visiting the Torres Strait. This is a substantial responsibility affecting the region's quality of life and, for its visitors, the quality of their travel experience.

Consequently, there are substantial demands placed on the Island Industries Board and management not only to operate a successful retail store network on a daily basis but also to plan for and manage the future direction of vital infrastructure for the sale and distribution of goods in an important and challenging geographic area of the state. Moreover, IBIS cannot take its customers for granted, and must rely on its own commercial abilities if it is not to be a burden on the people of the region and the Queensland taxpayer. To be able to respond in such a way that both the consumption needs of the consumers and the business needs of IBIS can be met requires the application of considerable skills, experience and knowledge appropriate to the market environment.

Currently, the board of IBIS comprises one government officer, who is appointed on an ex officio basis, two members appointed by the Governor in Council, and five members nominated through the Island Coordinating Council. Given the need for IBIS to be able to operate as a modern trading corporation in a highly competitive and demanding environment, it is appropriate that the board structure be measured against contemporary best practice. There is a general acceptance that boards should not be too large. There is also recognition that, from time to time, depending on the needs of an

organisation, additional expertise or capacity may be required at board level. Consequently, while minimum size boards should be an objective, some flexibility still needs to exist.

The proposed amendments provide for a minimum size board of five members. A board of this size can provide the breadth and depth of skills normally required for a business such as IBIS. However, the Community Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2001 provides scope to add additional members if determined appropriate and necessary. Importantly, the bill requires that membership be based on commercial or management skills and experience or other attributes relevant to the performance of IBIS. The success of IBIS requires that all its board members are able to make contributions to its business needs. They can do so only if they are appropriately qualified and experienced. Quite rightly, the emphasis must be on performance rather than mere representation.

However, it is also important to remember that the interests of the local residents in the Torres Strait need recognition, and there is a special regard held for IBIS by island communities. For these reasons, it is appropriate for specific provisions to be made for Torres Strait Islander communities to be represented by suitably qualified persons. In this regard, the bill provides for the recommendation to the Governor in Council for the appointment of two members from a panel of five recommended by the Island Coordinating Council.

In keeping with modern corporate governance standards, there must be a clear understanding about how the board will operate. The bill provides for greater convenience in holding meetings, simplifies arrangements for meetings if the chair is absent so that meetings can proceed with certainty, and clarifies the board's role and its accountability by making the chair a non-executive position. The bill also makes the role of the chief executive officer clearer and sets out that person's accountability to the full board of IBIS. I support the bill.

ORGANISATION	SUBURB	CONTACT NAME	TELEPHONE NO.
AGED-CARE FACILITIES			
Bethesda Caring Centre	Corinda	Janet Lutke-Schipholt	3379 2951
Canossa Nursing Home	Oxley	Sr Concetta Coppe	3717 5555
Hopetoun Aged Persons Complex	Corinda	Linda Campbell	3379 6122
James Ommaney Village	Jindalee	Marilyn Blackwell	3376 6399
Jindalee Nursing Centre	Jindalee	Paul Harper	3376 1523
Sinamon Village Aged Complex	Seventeen Mile Rocks	Farida Banks`	3376 4385
CHURCHES			
Centenary Baptist Community Church	Middle Park	Pastor Peter Boots	3376 1835
Centenary Uniting Church	Middle Park	Rev Bruce Warren	3279 2171
Corinda Christian Brethren Assembly	Corinda	Minister John Knott	3217 0321
Cornerstone Christian Family Church	Mt Ommaney	Pastor Percy Campbell	3279 4099
Darra-Jindalee Catholic Church	Jindalee	Rev Fr Dan Carroll	3375 1013
Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Aust	Middle Park	Rev David Higgs	3376 6045
Good News Lutheran Church	Middle Park	Pastor Jim Strelan	3279 3497
Methodist Church	Oxley	Pastor Diana Allan	
Oxley Uniting Church	Oxley	Rev Kerrin Edwards	
Presbyterian Reformed Church Brisbane South	Oxley	Pastor Trevor Marshall	3379 8529
Riverside Christian Church (Assemblies of God)	Corinda	Pastor Jim Cameron	3376 3243
Sherwood Uniting Church	Sherwood	Rev Peter Clark	3379 1329
St Catherines Anglican Ministry	Middle Park	The Ven Irvine J. Scott	3376 0384
St John's Lutheran Church	Corinda	Pastor Tim Jaensch	3379 3441
St Joseph's Catholic Church	Corinda	Rev Fr Tim Harris	3379 1534
St Mathews Anglican Parish of Sherwood	Sherwood	Rev Bruce Sligo	3379 3437
The Salvation Army (Centenary)	Mt Ommaney	Majors Peter & Debbie Hindle	3279 2850
Universal Apostolic Church	Jindalee	Rev Lou McIntyre	3376 2439
Westside Church of Christ	Jamboree Heights	Pastor Geoff Risson	3279 1570
Westside Reach Out for Christ	Mt Ommaney	Pastor Gerry Hudson	3279 7131
OTHER COMMUNITY GROUPS			
Anti-Graffiti Group	Westlake	Anthony & Ann Lanza	3279 3989
Benarrawa Community Development Assn	Graceville	Lorraine Hinds	3379 9925
Brisbane's West by Southwest Historical Society	Jindalee	Ezzat Guindy	3376 0810
Centenary and Districts Chamber of Commerce	Sumner Park	Keith Hamilton	1800 444549

Centenary Community Connections	Jindalee	Simon Cox	3376 2643
Centenary Evening View Club	Mt Ommaney	Anne Minter	3378 3994
Centenary Local Ambulance Committee	Darra	Marie Ryan	3879 0287
Centenary Meals on Wheels	Jindalee	Rae Livingston	3376 4438
Centenary Riverfront Advisory Committee Inc	Mt Ommaney	Noel Wilson	3376 1412
Centenary Safety House	Middle Park	Elizabeth Dutton	3376 8650
Centenary Seniors	Oxley	Mareine Erskine	3279 1431
Centenary Suburbs Historical Society	Westlake	Caroline Hamilton	3376 1615
Centenary Suburbs RSL Sub-Branch	Jindalee	Bill Krause	3376 5087
Combined Probus Club of Sherwood	Corinda	Col Mulholland	3371 6439
Community Options		Pam Gruillis	3278 9441
Focus on Youth Inc	Seventeen Mile Rocks	Gerry Hulett	3375 4415
Graceville Anxiety Management Support Group	Sherwood	Carolyn Gartner	3278 3480
Island Sensation Dance Group	Oxley	Nane Tou	3379 6554
Jamboree Heights Girl Guides	Mt Ommaney	Janet Jenkins	3376 1889
Jindalee Bushcare Group	Jindalee	Noel & Clare Wilson	3376 1412
Jindalee Girl Guides	Mt Ommaney	Peter Liebich	3265 7801
Jindalee Lions Club	Mt Ommaney	Denise Comans	3376 1356
John Oxley District Orchid Society Inc	Corinda	Barbara Shooter	3277 2899
Latvian Arts and Crafts	Jamboree Heights	Mrs Lacis	3279 2683
McLeod Country Golf Club	Middle Park	Cheryl Wilson	3376 3666
Montrose – Qld Society for Crippled Children	Corinda	Darrel Bourke	3717 1116
National Seniors Association Centenary Branch	Mt Ommaney	Trevor Quant	3376 1032
National Seniors Association Corinda Branch	Oxley	Thelma Herriman	3379 2720
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 1 Middle Park East	Middle Park	Ernie Robson	3279 0746
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 10 Windemere	Sinnamon Park	Laurel Mackinnon	3715 5805
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 2 Corinda	Corinda	Mary James	3379 2470`
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 3 Jindalee South	Jindalee	Chris Mountier	3279 5597
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 4 Jindalee North	Jindalee	Paul de Kruyf	3376 4760
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 5	Mt Ommaney	John Chuong	3279 1683
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 6 Sinnamon Park	Sinnamon Park	Simon White	3715 7074
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 7 Riverhills	Riverhills	Grahame Tainton	3279 0185

Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 8 Middle Park West	Middle Park	Peter O'Keefe	3376 8396
Neighbourhood Watch Mt Ommaney 9 Gertrude McLeod	Middle Park	Peter Muir	3376 7221
Neighbourhood Watch Sherwood	Corinda	John Belzer	3379 1902
Nursing Mothers Association – Centenary Suburbs Group	Riverhills	Vicki Pickering	3376 8228
Oxley Creek Environment Group	Sherwood	Jocelyn Clarkson	3379 6021
Oxley Girl Guides	Corinda	Annette Harper	3379 9658
Oxley Scout Group	Corinda	Bob Matthews	3379 6186
Oxley Senior Citizens Association	Oxley	Jim Hart	3379 6825
Pol-Art 2000 – Brisbane Association Inc	Corinda	Halina Centkowska	3375 4240
QCWA (Oxley Branch)	Indooroopilly	Anne Mulholland	3371 6439
Rotary Club of Jindalee	Mt Ommaney	Brian McPherson	3233 0250
Rotary Club of Jindalee/Brisbane Centenary	Mt Ommaney	Andrew Rogers	3277 6944
Rotary Club of Sumner Park	Mt Ommaney	Patrick Smith	3376 9419
Save Our Riverfront Bushland Group	Westlake	Ed Parker	3376 1389
Sherwood District Meals on Wheels Inc	Corinda	Mary James	3379 7715
Sherwood Neighbourhood Centre Inc	Sherwood	Margaret Smith	3379 6963
Sherwood Probus Club	Corinda	Pam Dale	3375 4698
Sherwood Scout Group	Sherwood	Peter Jones	3379 3485
Sherwood/Indooroopilly RSLA Sub-Branch	Corinda	Ron McElwaine	3379 3536
Sinnamon Park Residents Progress Assn	Sinnamon Park	Frank Eilert	3896 9007
Sumner Park Lions	Westlake	Robert McDowall	3279 1609
Transport Options Project (TOPS)	Corinda	Tracey Beckwith	3832 1266
War Memorial Gardens Committee	Mt Ommaney	Don Robertson	3279 3131
Young Widows & Widowers Support Group of Brisbane	Riverhills	Karen Gray	3376 2649
Zoe Reed Little Bridge House Assn Inc	Brisbane	Sr Pamela Barker	3211 9922
PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS			
Centenary State High School P&C	Jindalee	Simon Cox	3373 4555
Corinda State High School P&C	Corinda	David Rankin	
Corinda State Primary School P&C	Corinda	Gavin Bennick	3379 2005
Darra/Jindalee Catholic School P&F	Darra	Therese Wilson	3279 3651
Good News Lutheran School P&F	Middle Park	Tammy Smith	
Jamboree Community Kindergarten and Preschool P&C	Sumner Park	Sue Staniforth	3376 1556
Jamboree Heights State Pre-School Parent Group	Jamboree Heights		
Jamboree Heights State School P&C	Jamboree Heights	Simon Cox	3376 3799

Jindalee State School P&C	Jindalee	Belinda Karnaghan	3376 5237
Middle Park State School P&C	Middle Park	Rob Drury	
Milpera State High School P&C	Chelmer	Margaret Munro	3379 5588
Mt Ommaney Special School P&C	Mt Ommaney	Lyndell Browne	3279 2611
Oxley State School P&C	Oxley	Carolyn Turberville	3375 5189
Sherwood State School P&C	Sherwood	Emily Lowes	3379 1341
St Aidens Anglican Girls School P&C	Corinda	Peter Watson	
St Joseph's School P&F	Corinda	Leon Gravenall	3217 0310
SPORTING GROUPS			
Brisbane Gymnastics Club	Graceville	Barry Cheales	3379 9932
Brisbane Water Ski Club Inc	Mt Ommaney	G. Pearce	403030600
Centenary Canoe Club	Riverhills	Peter Cooke	3279 6560
Centenary Community Sporting Association	Jamboree Heights	Neil McAlister	3376 1579
Centenary Cricket Club Inc	Mt Ommaney	R. Lindsay	3235 4632
Centenary Little Athletics	Westlake	Joy De Martini	3376 8910
Centenary Netball Club	Middle Park	Noela Pietra	3376 1995
Centenary Soccer Inc	Mt Ommaney	Brad Freeman	
Centenary Swim Club	Riverhills	Debbie Croxford	3376 7486
Centenary Table Tennis Association	Jamboree Heights	Tony Herbert	3376 4803
Greater Brisbane Junior Tennis Inc	Indooroopilly	Debra Daly	3374 2754
Jamboree Heights Swimming Club Incorp Assocn	Mt Ommaney	Michelle Chadwick	3279 0042
Jindalee District (Jags) Australian Football Club	Mt Ommaney	Alan Tupicoff	3279 2470
Jindalee Ladies Bowling Club Inc	Mt Ommaney	Barbara Berriman	3372 1286
Jindalee Mens Bowls Club Inc	Mt Ommaney	Bob Henderson	3376 1240
Jindalee Netball Club	Jindalee	Kathie Kibsgaard	3279 1947
Jindalee Swimming Club Inc	Jindalee	P. Schefe	3715 7265
Jindalee Swimming Pool	Jindalee	Gavin & Jane Whitburn	3376 1002
Oxley State School Amateur Swimming Club	Oxley	Dave Strachan	3379 5899
Oxley United Soccer Club	Corinda	Russell Peachey	3848 1660
Sherwood State School Amateur Swimming Club	Sherwood	Peta Holstein	3379 6658
Southern Cross Junior Rugby League Football Club	Graceville	Darryl Moore	3379 7250
St Catherine's United Soccer Club	Mt Ommaney	Kerri-Lyn Jones	3376 8189
St Joseph's Netball Club	Corinda	Bob Jeanes	3379 1275
The Young Men's Christian Association of Brisbane (Y-West)	Jamboree Heights	Michael Tsiamis	3376 4266

Westside BMX Club	Riverhills	Karen Mackellar	3376 3579
Y-West Youth & Community Centre	Jamboree Heights	Michael Tsiamis	3376 4266